

Plate XIII.

1. *Eleotris elongata*, nat. size.
2. *Salarias lineolata*, nat. size.
3. „ *geminatus*, nat. size.
4. „ *irroratus*, nat. size.

Plate XIV.

1. *Salarias filamentosus*, nat. size.
2. „ *auridens*, nat. size.
3. „ *cristiceps*, nat. size.

Plate XV.

1. *Mugil delicatus*, $\frac{1}{4}$ nat. size.
2. *Pomacentrus obscurus*, nat. size.
3. *Heptadecanthus longicaudis*, nat. size.

Plate XVI.

1. *Chaerops notatus*, $\frac{1}{3}$ nat. size.
2. *Cheilolabrus magnilabris*, $\frac{1}{4}$ nat. size.
3. *Pseudoscarius flavolineatus*, $\frac{1}{3}$ nat. size.

Plate XVII.

1. *Pseudoscarius nudirostris*, $\frac{1}{3}$ nat. size.
2. *Ichthyocampus maculatus*, $\frac{2}{3}$ nat. size.
3. *Monacanthus Cheverti*, $\frac{1}{2}$ nat. size.



Description of a supposed New Species of Rock Wallaby from the Palm Islands, on the North-east Coast of Australia, proposed to be called *Petrogale assimilis*. By E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., Curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

It having been proposed by Mr. Wm. Macleay that I should examine the collection of mammals obtained during the Chevert expedition, with a view of reporting thereon and describing any new species it might contain, I beg leave to lay before the Society this evening a description of what I believe to be a new species of Rock Wallaby, of the genus *Petrogale*. As the specimen is at pre-

sent unique, and the skull and teeth cannot easily be examined without risk of deterioration, I can make no remarks on those organs. I have only to add, then, that the specimen is a skin of a female, apparently adult, and, like most if not all of the skins obtained during the expedition, very beautifully prepared.

PETROGALE ASSIMILIS, SP. NOV.

Adult female. Fur thick and close set, of medium length; general color of a dark ashy grey above, mingled with a few rusty hairs on the rump and hinder part of thighs, sides a little lighter, under surface lightest, inclining to white ashy grey; lips, chin and chest ashy white; tail of medium length, black, the hairs harsh, a little long at the tip, where they form an inconspicuous tuft; base of the tail rusty, paler on the sides and darkest above, the under part being ashy brown; hind feet brownish, becoming blackish on the toes where the hairs are a little longer, but do not conceal the nails, which are short; forelegs greyish, inclining to rusty in front, dark chocolate brown on the inner side, hands dark chocolate brown, hairs short, nails long, slender; head greyish brown, cheek mark faint, of an ashy tinge, also a faint light ashy mark over the eye in front; cheek stripe indistinct, extending from the lips to the base of the ears; hair on the margin and inside of the ears and the apex of a light cream colour, externally dark ashy brown. The hair radiating from behind the ears on the nape of the neck is directed forwards and downwards towards the cheek; between the ears it forms a ridge which extends forwards to opposite the eyes, the tips of the hairs here forming a black line. The basal portion of the fur of the back is of a dark blackish brown, with a chocolate tinge, the upper portion ashy, with the tips blackish; the hairs are a little longer on the sides, but few have the blackish tips; a small patch on the inner side of the forearm of a uniform dark chocolate brown. The ears are small and rather elongated; the hind limbs and tail rather short; the fore limbs long, slender—nails long, pointed, weak; the tarsi and hands clothed with short hair.

Total length, three feet; tail, 16 inches; hind limbs about 12 inches; the foot, 5·3; longest toe, 2·1, its nail, 0·3; fore limbs

about 7·7 inches ; longest finger, 1·1 in., its nail, 0·5 ; length of head, 4·2 in. ; width across forehead, 2 inches ; from snout to centre of orbit 2·1 ; to base of ear, 3·7 ; ears, length, 2 in. x 1.

This species is more closely allied to *Petrogale penicillata* (*Gray*) than to any other that I know of ; but may be easily distinguished from that animal in being much smaller, in having a shorter tail, more slender fore limbs, shorter fur, and by the absence of the side stripe ;* the ears also are smaller and comparatively narrow ; the tail and feet are not clothed with the long harsh hairs so conspicuous in *P. penicillata* ; nor is there any rufous on the under surface. I do not find, either, any indication of a curled patch of hair on the nape or shoulders of any specimens of *Petrogale penicillata* that I have examined ; nor of the ridge of hair on the head.

The present species was obtained on the Palm Island, on the North-east coast, near Cleveland Bay, during the voyage of the *Chevert*, and was, I believe, the only specimen obtained ; sex, female.

Mr. MASTERS exhibited nests of *Geobasileus reguloides*, and *chryssorrhous*, with specimens of the birds and eggs of each species. The nests were dome-shaped, with the openings on one side, and each with an additional open nest on the top. Mr. Masters stated that Mr. Gould had noticed this peculiarity in one of the species (*chryssorrhous*), but without having any suspicion of the use for which it was intended. He said that he was now in a position to explain the use of this double nest. During this spring, a brood had been actually brought out from one of the nests exhibited (that of *G. reguloides*), at Mr. Shepherd's nursery, at Chatsworth, Rope Creek. The nest was in an orange tree, close to a shed where the men were constantly at work, and it was generally observed that during the process of incubation the male frequently

* A specimen in the Australian Museum, which may be referable to this species, has a short white patch running from behind the shoulder toward the abdomen.